

United States Patent and Trademark Office

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/775,002	02/01/2001	Ron Joseph	054611-003	7478	
7	590 03/26/2003				
Thompson Hine & Flory LLP Attention: Theodore D. Lienesch 2000 Courthouse Plaza N.E.			EXAMINER		
			AKERS, GEOFFREY R		
P.O. Box 8801 Dayton, OH 45401-8801		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER	
,,			3624		
			DATE MAILED: 03/26/2003		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application Ap				_		
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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-41 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 USC 103(b) as unpatentable over Lineback(1991) in view of Waldo(US Pat. No:6,237,009).
- 4. As per claims 1-41 Lineback teaches online leasing of automobiles(Page 1). Waldo teaches lease renewal services and renegotiation at the end of a lease term(Abstract) as well as managing leases between clients(Abstract)(Figs 1-18)(col 4 line 51-col 6 line 57) as well as maintaining appropriate datasbases(Fig 5)(Fig 9) and lease cancellation(Fig 18) over a network(Fig 7/55)(Fig 8/55). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Lineback in view of Waldo to teach the applicant's invention. The motivation to combine is to teach a method of managing leases in an online system with multiple clients as enunciated by Waldo(col 6 lines 50-57).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1-41 are further rejected under 35 USC 112(2nd) for failing to point out and specifically claim what applicant regards is the invention. The independent claims are too broad to sufficiently indicate the distinctive characteristics of the disclosure.

7. Any questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the primary examiner of record, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E., who can be reached between 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday at 703-306-5844. If attempts to contact the primary examiner are unsuccessful, the primary examiner's superior, Mr. Vincent Millin, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1065.

The fax number for Formal or Official faxes and Draft or Informal faxes to Technology Center 3600 or this Art Unit is (703)-308-3687. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-1113.

March 20, 2003

DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E. PRIMARY EXAMINER